

simply...the page indicated that the State of Nebraska has the costliest system of postsecondary education in the United States when we look at all elements of postsecondary education, i.e., the state colleges, the University system and the vocational and tech. schools. When they are all put together it turns out that we have the costliest system of educating people after high school in the nation. Now I am of the opinion that that system needs to be changed. We need to get more education for our dollar. A lot of my colleagues feel the same way. We need to get more education for our finite resources. The only way that can be done, in my view, is to begin this long, tedious and painful process of restructuring the delivery of postsecondary education in Nebraska. So long as we have an elected board of regents and appointed state college board, and locally elected members of boards of trustees of our vocational-technical schools, I think we have every factor in place to totally prevent, to totally and absolutely prevent any significant restructuring of this costly system in our state of postsecondary education. So it seems to me that the first step is to put our state institutions on the square, which is we have an appointed state college board, and we have an appointed board of regents. Now once that small change is made, and it is a significant change, once it is made at least it eliminates one of the inhibiting factors to structural reform in the way we deliver education in this state. There are other steps that we will have to undertake. Senator Lamb, I know, has been a long-time advocate of a state takeover of the state vocational-technical schools. I share him in that point of view. I think others do as well. This is not an issue that will be accomplished or on an agenda that can be accomplished overnight. But it is an agenda that can be accomplished in a decade. The first item, in my view, is to begin with appointed regents. Mind you we don't even have the last word on the issue.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Again, as Senator Haberman has wisely pointed out, he's done an excellent job I think on his kill motion, as he's wisely pointed out it is not right for us to simply pass the buck to the voters and say let the voters decide the issue. We need to first decide in our mind as to whether or not it is an appropriate issue or not an appropriate issue. I think it is a perfectly appropriate